

MEDICAL DIRECTOR AMENDMENTS

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jen Plumb

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates the position of medical director within the Department of Health and Human Services, with a focus on children, youth, and families.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ creates the position of medical director within the Department of Health and Human Services, with a focus on children, youth, and families;
- ▶ establishes certain qualifications for the medical director position; and
- ▶ defines the duty and authority of the medical director position.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

26B-1-205.1, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **26B-1-205.1** is enacted to read:

26B-1-205.1. Medical director.



- 28 (1) There is created the position of medical director within the department.
- 29 (2) The position of medical director is one full-time equivalent position.
- 30 (3) The medical director shall:
- 31 (a) be licensed to practice as a physician or osteopath under Title 58, Chapter 67, Utah
- 32 Medical Practice Act, or Title 58, Chapter 68, Utah Osteopathic Medical Practice Act;
- 33 (b) be board certified in pediatrics or family medicine;
- 34 (c) have at least seven years of experience in direct patient care, or equivalent
- 35 experience; and
- 36 (d) have significant training and experience in evaluating children and youth who may
- 37 be victims of abuse or neglect.
- 38 (4) Under the direction of the executive director or the executive director's designee,
- 39 the medical director shall:
- 40 (a) support the divisions relating to community health and well-being, as described in
- 41 Subsection 26B-1-204(3)(c), with a focus on the health and well-being of children, youth, and
- 42 families served by the department; and
- 43 (b) participate in the development, implementation, and evaluation of programs to
- 44 improve the physical and mental health and well-being of children, youth, and families, with an
- 45 emphasis on those children and youth who are involved with the state's child welfare agencies.
- 46 (5) Under the direction of the executive director or the executive director's designee,
- 47 the medical director may support the delivery of comprehensive medical and mental health care
- 48 services for children and youth in state care, in collaboration with other department programs
- 49 that address the well-being of children, youth, and families in the state.
- 50 (6) The medical director may not:
- 51 (a) consult on individual or categorical cases;
- 52 (b) make management decisions on behalf of the department or any division within the
- 53 department;
- 54 (c) make a determination in a specific case or about a specific individual on behalf of
- 55 the department or any division within the department; or
- 56 (d) create, recommend, or implement within the department or any division within the
- 57 department any policy that is contrary to the policies set by the Legislature.

58 Section 2. **Effective date.**

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This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.